REMARKS

The above claim amendments are presented in order to remove multiple claim dependencies, so as to reduce the required filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Katsuyoshi OKABE et al.

Jeffrey R. Filipe

Registration No. 41,471 Attorney for Applicants

JRF/fs

Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 December 8, 2005